date fixed for completion of the construction of each dam; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) A Statement giving details of ongoing major dam projects alongwith their schedule of completion is attached. The steps taken for expeditious construction of these projects so as to derive early benefits are, giving priority to those projects which have made substaintial progress, earmarking by the Planning Commission of outlays for important projects intensive monitoring of important projects by Central Water Commission and the States, setting up of Cost Control Cells in the States, etc. [*See* Appendix 175, Annexure No. 49]

Import of Penicillin

1972. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that half of the penicillin requirement of the country is met through imports;

(b) the names of the countries from where this drug is imported and the total amount involved in foreign exchange;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to set up any project in Gujarat for producing penicillin to avoid its import;

(d) if so, the details of the scheme and the extent of saving against the drug's import; and

(e) the likely date of production in the country for meeting the total requirement of penicillin?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) In order to regulate to imports of Potassium penicillin G First Crystals (pen. G), a Policy called the Pen. G Policy, is announced from time to time. According to the existing Policy, the ratio for use of domestic material and the imported material has been fixed as 70 (domestic): 30 (imported).

(b) Pen. G is being imported from various countries including, China, USA, Austria, Russia, Hungary, Germany, Netherlands, Japan, Mexico etc.

(c) to (e) Government does not intend to set up a project in Gujarat for manufacture of Pen. G. However, M/s. Torrent Gujarat Biotech Ltd. (TGBL), a unit in the private sector in Gujarat, has started commercial production this year. Two other new units have also commenced commercial production.

Checking of Drop-out Rate

1973. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Times of India' of 28th November, 1995 to the effect that the Government reports on the high drop-out rate and low level of learning in the schools do not acknowledge the corporal punishment as one of the main reasons;

(b) if so, the facts and details of various factors responsible for the increase in drop-out rate at Primary, Secondary and University level;

(c) the details of suggestions made by various committees set up by Government for adopting rational ways by schools to induce discipline and to check drop-out among the students; and

(d) the steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While drop put rates are declining at

all stages of education, they are still high due to socio-economic and pedagogic reasons.

(c) and (d) There have been several initiatives, details of which are available in the Annual Reports of the Ministry. Efforts have been continuously made to improve the content and process of education and make learning joyful and child centred. Recently, a major initiative has been launched by Central Government in the form of National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education with a view to improve attendance in primary schools.

उर्वरकों की कीमतों में वृद्धि

1974. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या **रसायन और उर्वरक** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश के प्रमुख उर्वरक एककों के बन्द हो जाने से उर्वरकों की कीमतों में अत्यधिक वृद्धि हुई है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इस स्थिति से निपटने के लिए उर्वरकों का आयात करने का निर्णय किया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) इन एककों के बन्द होने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार उर्वरकों पर राज-सहायता बन्द करने का विचार रखती है?

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री राम लखन सिंह यादव): (क) और (ख) एफ सी आई का गोरखपुर एकक तथा एच एफ सी के नामरूप एकक का अमोनियम सल्फेट संयंत्र क्रमश: जून, 1990 तथा जुलाई, 1992 से बन्द पड़ा है। इसके अलावा एच एफ सी की हल्दिया परियोजना, जो नवम्बर, 1979 में यांत्रिक रूप से पूर्ण हो चुकी थी, इसके आरम्भण के दौरान से बारम्बार उपस्कर खराबियों के कारण उसमें वाणिज्यिक प्रचालन नहीं किया जा सका। परियोजना के प्रारम्भण कार्यकलाप अक्तूबर, 1986 से अन्तिम रूप से बन्द पड़े थे।

इन एककों के बन्द होने से उर्वरकों के मूल्यों पर कोई विशेष प्रभाव नहीं पड़ा था।

(ग) और (घ) स्वदेशी उपलब्धता तथा मूल्यांकित मांग के बीच के अन्तर को यूरिया के आयात से पूरा किया जाता है।

(ङ) जी, नहीं।

Steps Taken in Launching of Mid-day-meals

1975. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that have been taken in different States and Union Territories in pursuance of the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme launched by the Prime Minister on independence Day this year;

(b) the average cost per child per day incurred on the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme in different States and Union Territories; and

(c) the calorie value of such food per child per day in each State/Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI): (a) Under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, foodgrains have been released through FCI to all States/Union Territories for distribution of serving cooked meals to all children studying in primary classes in Government, Government aided and local body schools located in identified blocks. Reports have been received from all States and Union Territories that implementation has begun.

(b) the average cost varies from State to State. The approximate cost of the cereals given by the Central Government is Rs. 0.70 per child per day.

(c) The calorific values vary widely because of the variations in the modes of delivery. However, the calorific value of 100 grams of cereals being supplied by